

Claims 6, 31, 32, 49, 50, and 65-73 have been amended to recite a peptide comprising an epitope consisting of about 8-11 residues that binds to an HLA molecule. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 4, lines 5-7.

Claims 6, 9, 10, 32, 35, 36, 50, 52, 53, and 65-73 have been amended to recite that the peptides of the invention do not comprise an entire native antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, lines 1-8.

Claims 8, 9, 34, 35, 51, and 52 have been amended to recite a nucleic acid encoding a peptide of the invention. These amendments add no new matter. Support for these amendments can be found, e.g., in the specification on and page 18, line 27 through page 19, line 17 and page 24, line 23 through page 26, line 10.

Claims 11 and 37 recite a cancer associated antigen. Claims 17 and 43 recite a pathogenic antigen. These amendments add no new matter. Support for these amendments can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, lines 13-16.

Claims 12 and 38 recite a CEA antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, line 22.

Claims 13 and 39 recite a HER2/neu antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, line 22.

Claims 14 and 40 recite a p53 antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, line 22.

Claims 15 and 41 recite a MAGE antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, line 20.

Claims 16 and 42 recite a prostate-associated antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this claim can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, line 18.

Claims 18 and 44 recite an HIV antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, line 20.

Claims 19 and 45 recite an HBV antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, line 19.

Claim 20 and 46 recite an HCV antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, line 19.

Claims 21 and 47 recite a malaria antigen. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in U.S.S.N. 08/821,739, which is incorporated by reference, in the Table on page 37.

Claims 23 and 57 recite a binding affinity for the peptide, wherein the binding affinity is an  $IC_{50}$  less than about 500 nM. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in U.S.S.N. 08/159,339, which is incorporated by reference, on p. 68, lines 9-14. Support can also be found the specification of U.S.S.N. 08/159,339, incorporated by reference, e.g., on page 69, lines 7-9, which indicates that an  $IC_{50}$  of less than about 500 nM correlates with immunogenicity.

Claims 10, 36, and 53 relate to a peptide fragment that is a longer peptide fragment. This amendment adds no new matter. Support for this amendment can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 12, lines 24-25, which describes that the peptides can be a variety of lengths.

Claims 22, 48, and 56 recite testing *in vitro* and *in vivo*. These amendments add no new matter. Support for these amendments can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 5, line 28 through page 6, line 2.

Claims 6, 50, 65, 67, 68, 70, 71, and 73 recite a peptide linked to a molecule. These claims add no new matter. Support for these claims can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 12, lines 22-24.

Claims 25 and 59 recite a peptide linked to a lipid. These claims add no new matter. Support for these claims can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 17, lines 21-31.

Claims 26 and 60 recite a peptide linked to a T helper peptide. These claims add no new matter. Support for these claims can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 17, lines 6-19.

Claims 27 and 61 recite a peptide linked to a Pan DR binding peptide. These claims add no new matter. Support for these claims can be found, e.g., in the specification of

U.S.S.N. 08/186,266, incorporated by reference and which is now U.S. Patent No. 5,662,907, on page 14, lines 25-36.

Claims 28 and 62 recite a peptide linked to a CTL peptide and claims 29 and 63 recite a peptide linked to another peptide. These claims add no new matter. Support for these claims can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 23, lines 3-7.


Claims 30 and 64 recite a peptide linked to a carrier. These claims add no new matter. Support for these claims can be found, e.g., in the specification on page 23, lines 3-10.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200 or Timothy J. Lithgow at 619-860-2514.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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